

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following claim listing. The claim listing replaces all prior claim versions and claim listings in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag (10), a gas generator (12) mounted so as to be capable of swinging in order to amortize vibrations, a generator carrier (16), means (18) for bracing the gas bag (10) on the generator carrier (16), and an elastically deformable, in relation to a central axis (A) of the gas bag module encircling sealing element (24), ~~characterized in that the sealing element (24) is~~ being fastened by its free edge portions of said sealing element directly or indirectly to the gas generator (12) and to the generator carrier (16), respectively, in order to seal an interior of the gas bag from a space between the gas generator and the generator carrier before and on filling of the gas bag, ~~and in that a middle section (26) of the sealing element (24), which is free before the filling a filling of the gas bag (10), is bag, being~~ deflected by the pressure occurring in the interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag (10), so that the middle section (26) comes directly or indirectly in abutment with a support surface (22; 28).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gas generator (12) is at least partially supported in the gas bag module by the sealing element (24).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in that the sealing element (24) is constructed in the manner of a cylinder and ~~is upset in axial direction~~ has a wave-like contour in cross-section.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in that a free edge portion of the sealing element (24) is fastened to a mounting flange (20) of the gas generator (12).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in that the support surface (22; 28) is formed on a section of the generator carrier (16).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in that the middle section (26) of the sealing element (24) is constructed in a wave-form and projects between the gas generator (12) and the support surface (22; 28).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging, a generator carrier, means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, and an elastically deformable, in relation to a central axis of the gas bag module encircling sealing element, the sealing element being fastened by free edge portions of the sealing element directly or indirectly to the gas generator

and to the generator carrier, respectively, a middle section of the sealing element, which is free before a filling of the gas bag, being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the middle section comes directly or indirectly in abutment with a support surface. ~~The gas bag module according to any of claim 1, characterized in that~~ wherein the support surface is formed on an intermediate element (34) arranged on the gas generator (12).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag (10), a gas generator (12) mounted so as to be capable of swinging in order to amortize vibrations, a generator carrier (16) and means (18) for bracing the gas bag (10) on the generator carrier (16), ~~characterized in that the gas generator (12) is being~~ deflected by the pressure occurring ~~in the~~ in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag (10), so that the gas generator (12) is pressed against a support surface (22; 28) formed on the generator carrier (16), a sealing element (24; 32) being provided between the gas generator (12) and the support surface (22; 28), the sealing element sealing the interior of the gas bag from a space between the gas generator and the generator carrier on filling of the gas bag.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging, a generator carrier and means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, the gas generator being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the gas generator is

pressed against a support surface formed on the generator carrier, a sealing element being provided between the gas generator and the support surface. ~~The gas bag module according to claim 8, characterized in that~~ wherein an encircling mounting flange (20) of the gas generator (12) is pressed onto the support surface (22; 28).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sealing element (32) is fastened on one side of the of a mounting flange (20) of the gas generator.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sealing element (32) is fastened on the support surface (28).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a motor vehicle steering wheel, the gas bag module comprising a gas bag, a gas generator mounted so as to be capable of swinging, a generator carrier and means for bracing the gas bag on the generator carrier, the gas generator being deflected by the pressure occurring in an interior of the gas bag on filling of the gas bag, so that the gas generator is pressed against a support surface formed on the generator carrier, a sealing element being provided between the gas generator and the support surface. ~~The gas bag module according to claim 8, characterized in that~~ wherein the sealing element (32) is an encircling sealing element, in particular a sealing ring.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The gas bag module according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein several segments (24) of an elastically deformable material are provided, distributed over the periphery of the gas generator (12), which are fastened directly or indirectly to the gas generator (12) and to the generator carrier (16) and by which the gas generator (12) is at least partially supported in the gas bag module.